DAILY COMMERCIAL.
PUBLISHED BY
THE COMMERCIAL PRINTING COMPANY
OFFICE, 74 FIFTH AVENUE
(UPSTAIRS.)
C. D. BRIGHAM, - - - - - Editor.
S. D. THOMPSON, Business Manager.
TERMS OF THE DAILY:
Single Copy, ... 1 Cent.
Delivered by Carrier, (per week) ... 15 Cents.
Delivered by Mail, (per month) ... $1 00
☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.
☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., should be addressed to THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Daily Commercial.

THE COMMERCIAL.

Holiday Number.

DOUBLE SHEET.

EIGHT PAGES.

The Holiday Commercial of Eight Pages, or

72 Columns,

Will be issued on or about the 19th of December, and will be forwarded to Agents at the low price of Four Dollars a Hundred. It will be distinct from and wholly independent of the regular issue of the Commercial, and will contain a vast amount of Reading;

CHRISTMAS

AND OTHER

HOLIDAY TALES,

POETRY, SKETCHES,

and other matter specially prepared for this Number. The demand for our Holiday Sheet last year was greatly in excess of the edition printed, and Agents and others wishing this Number, which in every respect will excel any previous issue, should send in their orders at once to insure their being filled. As the edition will be large, an

UNEQUALED OPPORTUNITY

Will be given to those who wish to

INSERT ADVERTISEMENTS,

Of which a limited number only will be received. For terms Advertisers will apply at the Counting Room.

LOCAL NOTICES.

D. M. Duke, M. D.,
No. 173 Robinson street, Allegheny.

Vichy and Lithia.
For Rheumatism, half pints, just received by Clark, Druggist, 80 Fifth avenue.

The Place to Get
Marble or Slate Mantles is at D. R. Fisher's, 97 First street.

Vichy Water,
In pints and half pints at Clark's.

Bricklaying and Jobbing
Promptly attended to by D. R. Fisher, 97 First street.

Shepard's Substitute for Tobacco,
Sold by druggists generally.

Country Customers
Save money every day by purchasing their goods at the corner of McCandless's Drug Store, No. 70 Diamond street, corner Diamond, near the avenue.

Spectacle of Leagon,
With rose-shaped bridge and bows. Sold only by Clark, 80 Fifth avenue.

Dyspepsia, Dissolution, Catarrh,
And all affections of the Throat, Lungs, Liver, Stomach, Liver and Nervous System, treated successfully at Dr. Ayers's Medical and Surgical Institute, No. 24 Smithfield street.

Kissinger Water,
In pints and half pints, just received at Clark's Drug Store, 80 Fifth avenue.

Glass Handlemen
Supplied with genuine Lime by the barrel or car, by D. R. Fisher, 97 First street.

Silkmer's Pioneer Trunk Factory,
No Wood-sawed, is the cheapest place to get your Trunks, Valises, Travelling-bags or Ladies' Satchels.

Spectacle of Leagon,
For changed hands and face, prepared and sold by Clark, 80 Fifth avenue.

Fancy Queensware and Parlor Ornaments.
There is now opening at D. R. Fisher's new, extensive and well assorted stock of Queensware, Lamps, Vases, Statuettes, Parlor Ornaments, Bronzes, Marble Ornaments, Mantle Ornaments, Fancy Goods, Toys, &c., &c., all of which will be sold at the lowest prices. Call and see them, at No. 97 First street, near Wood.

Cancer,
The best remedy at D. R. Fisher's, 97 First street.

Dr. E. Gildemeister,
No. 23 Grant street, has for a number of years past devoted his attention entirely to the investigation and treatment of chronic diseases. The long standing practice and experience he has uniformly attended to by Dr. E. G. Gildemeister, deod

The Fifth Leopold Dry Goods Store,
Issues a catalogue of the popular dry goods and fancy goods establishment of Leopold Silverman & Sons, No. 54 Fifth street, which contains a complete list of the goods kept in this extensive establishment, with the prices attached. Persons in the country can have a copy sent to them by addressing a postal card to the store. Orders by mail will receive prompt attention. Goods sent C. O. D. to any part of the country. Samples of dress goods sent by mail. Remember the name and number, Leopold Silverman & Sons, No. 54 Fifth street, Pittsburgh.

Fine Watches,
Jewelry and silverware, at wholesale prices, at Hamilton's, 84 Fifth avenue, second door from Wood street.

Fine Gold Watches,
Jewelry and silverware, at wholesale prices, at Hamilton's, 84 Fifth avenue, second door from Wood street.

**Fine Silver

The Daily Commercial.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1868.

TO-DAY'S SUPPLEMENT.

With the regular edition of the COMMERCIAL even to-day we issue a supplement, containing Secretary MCCULLOCH'S report on finance, and the reports of General SCHOFIELD, Secretary of War, with other matter and advertisements. In addition to this, our regular sheet is crammed with news. So accustomed have the public become to look to us for correct, for all the news, that we hesitate not without boasting, give to-day extra quantity of reading. It will be observed that we, as usual, print these and other important reports referred to in advance of our contemporaries, who are compelled to await their publication, while we are put to the trouble of setting up our matter. We are glad to be able to avail themselves of our superior facilities for obtaining documents and reporters in issuing them. While others are promising what they are going to do, we are content to call attention to what we are doing.

STATE will obtain the hundred millions required to build up a new order of affairs, and give her people a stable liberal form of government. Already the negotiations on foot at Paris have advanced so far as to warrant the statement that a third of the amount required be secured, and the payments will shortly take place at the French Capital. The House of Peace, in Paris, has also agreed to receive, in chance of the new loan, payment for large advances made to the late Government.

THE two strongest and most reliable Democratic States in the Union are Delaware and Texas. In proportion to the population, they exhibit the power of it's sentiment to a greater extent than any other States in the Union that tolerate the whipping-post to-day. In the first mentioned, they enacted another infamous sentence New Castle on the 5th inst, equally as revolting as that described in these columns a few days ago. The last barbarism was the flogging of three men for trifling offences against the "majesty" of the law, two of whom were subjected to the tortures of the pillory as a preliminary. We are still told, that we should forget (!) that the Sheriff "is a kind hearted man" and that the "children enjoyed the sport keenly." In this connection we may state that the Democrats to a man sustain the pet institution, while the Republicans with scarcely an exception oppose it.

THE execution of the Insurgents MAZZINI and TOGNETTI, who helped to blow up the barracks in Rome last year, was the occasion of a spicy debate in the Italian Chamber of Deputies on the day following the execution. Several members interrogated General MENABREA concerning it, the Provisional Government, and the relations between France and Italy. The General, speaking for FRANCE, deemed it incumbent on him only to answer the first question, and assured the Chamber that the Italian Government did all in could to secure the execution, acknowledged that one of the condemned was an Italian citizen, and admitted that the execution was unjustifiable. The speeches of all the members condemned the Papacy, and protested against French intervention. They were loudly cheered by the public. Taken in connection with the political affairs in France, Austria and Prussia, these things possess a deep significance.

THERE is no hesitation, no mincing of terms in the utterances of the counsel for the Pacific officers arrested for publishing subscriptions to the Reuben monument. M. GARNETTE, alluding to the 24 of December made infamous by NAPOLEON III., said: "That great trial of the 24 of December cannot be finally decided by any Court. It was tried yesterday; it will be tried to-morrow, always—everywhere—so long as justice shall not have been done, this great case will ever remain on trial at Paris, London, Berlin, New York, throughout the world, and everywhere human conscience will return the same unchanging verdict." Softer words than these have never been uttered in any court, in any country, under any government. But M. GARNETTE went still further when he added, "you have never dared to celebrate the 24 of December as a national solemnity, because you know the reprobation it would meet with. *We will appropriate that anniversary.*" Who that reads these defiant words, containing at once reproach, contempt and a threat, can doubt either the animosity of the FRENCH people for their present ruler, or their courage in maintaining their views, and living up to their convictions?

PRISON DISCIPLINE.

We understand that the question of revising our entire system of prison discipline will come before the Legislature at its next session. The Commission appointed by the Governor to examine the prisons will report early in the session. One project, undoubtedly, is to build a new and magnificent Penitentiary at Harrisburg, or at some other central part of the State, to be conducted on our present system of solitary confinement. Another project, we believe, a more sensible project, involves a radical change in the treatment of convicts in our penitentiaries, all as well as new. The present, therefore, we deem an opportune moment to examine the entire system of Penitentiary confinement in this State, and offer some suggestions on the history and system of prison discipline.

We are aware that the present mode of solitary confinement is very often called the Pennsylvania system, and that during a full quarter of a century after the erection of the Eastern and Western Penitentiaries, it was regarded as a species of treasure to the State to doubt its almost Divine origin. We, however, respectfully suggest that our State, having tried it for some forty years, experience should be the sole test of its merit, and that Pennsylvanians who doubt its correctness are as free to anybody else to canvass its merits. No other system of prison discipline ever had so many earnest and able advocates to press its claims upon public attention as this system of solitary confinement. Every reader who has looked into the magazines and encyclopedias published a quarter of a century since, must be struck with the earnestness and ability of its speculative advocates, both in this country and in Europe. And yet in our own State alone have prisons been organized on this basis. New Jersey and Rhode Island built prisons intended to have been conducted on the solitary system, but both States have long since abandoned its enforcement, some feeble efforts were made to introduce the system in Europe, but none of them could be regarded as a success. The Eastern Penitentiary at Philadelphia, we believe, has fairly tried the solitary system. The Western one, in Allegheny city, has partially been upon that system, though the plan of the building has never excluded social communication between the adjoining cells. The Inspectors managing the prisons have done all in their power to enforce, in good faith, the solitary system. Until recently they have never permitted a suspicion to reach the public ear, that they doubted the wisdom of that plan. Now, however, we believe they would willingly see a change attempted in the hope of getting something better. For the last three or four years the Penitentiary has been so crowded that they have been forced to put two prisoners in the same cell, thus outraging the corner stone of the solitary system. The reason has been that the prison-ed nobody a few over two hundred cells, while the prisoners were nearly four hundred in number.

We have no authority to speak for the officials of the prison. As we understand the public sentiment of the best and wisest observers in this vicinity, they think the system of exclusive solitary confinement for all convicts to be a failure. Such, we are advised, are the convictions of the active members of the Board of Inspectors of the new House of Employment for this county, soon to be opened. The solitary system will not be enforced there, as we understand it. Those gentlemen examined a number of prisons, East and West, and entered upon this duty with their prepossessions in favor of our Pennsylvania system, but ended in the construction of their prison, to a large extent, upon another plan. We learn that at least a part of the State Commission will probably concur in this view of the subject.

If there is be, indeed, true that no other State has followed our example, and if a majority of the Commissioners upon visiting other State and county institutions deem the time has come to revise our mode of treatment of convicts, why should not the Press and the members of the Legislature be at liberty to give utterance to their convictions?

For ourselves, we are wedded to no pet theory. We have no doubt that the solitary system is the most expensive one to administer; that to some prisoners it is terrible cruelty, tending to the injury of their physical, mental and moral constitutions. Yet for others it may be beneficial, especially in the earlier period of their confinement. We understand that what is called the Irish system (two solitary confinement to a limited extent, until the peculiarities of the convict are fully comprehended. Then the congregate system of labor is resorted to, and finally the ticket of leave system, when the honor of the convict is appealed to and he is permitted to labor outside of walls, and allowed to receive the most of the profits of his labor. This system has met with such success in Ireland that its reported author has been knighted, and the prisons of Great Britain are to be conducted on his plan altogether. We shall therefore have the experience of England on a large scale very soon.

THE GREAT DANGER.

However we may differ from certain views of the Secretary of the Treasury concerning the final disposition of the public debt, and financial theories advanced by him, we decidedly testify our approval of the excellent, direct, unfaltering advocacy of the payment of the debt to the uttermost farthing according to law and understanding. Upon this point Mr. MCCULLOCH has never been betrayed into anything bearing the remotest resemblance to equivocation except as a pretext in support of SEWARD and BLAIR on instant supporter of SEWARD and BLAIR. While acknowledging the burden imposed upon the country and pointing out the difficulties to be encountered ere it can be removed, he has never lost sight of the end, and most important point, to wit: the plain fact that the debt must be paid *according to the original contract*. The most sight infringing could ask no more than his reports exhibit. His present report is especially sound in this respect. The warnings he utters, we cheerish the hope, will not pass unheeded. When we are informed that within twenty years we have parted with $1 maximum of the precious metals, and yet are confronted with a foreign debt of $400,000,000, that we are relying almost solely upon foreign bottoms for the prosecution of our trade with Europe, and that in return for these losses, and for the transfer of our bonds to Europe, we have "added nothing to the national wealth," but have grown in the desire for luxuries—the cravings of unexampled pride and vanity—"articles for which no nation can afford to run in debt," the warning is calculated to alarm the thoughtful, and we thank the Secretary for it. We are told that a reference to the Custom House entries will demonstrate the fact that *two-thirds of the importations* of the United States consist of articles which, in economical times, *would be pronounced luxuries*. Extravagance appears to be our besetting sin. The gold of California, instead of enriching us, has made us poorer.

We cannot shirk the fact: national extravagance, not the war debt, threatens to lead us to ruin. The Secretary does not give us the list of luxuries nor the countries which feed our vanity as a people prepossessed to our pride, but we can easily supply the omission. We send our beef, our pork, and our corn to England and France. We export our grain to Germany and Prussia. We receive in return rare wines from English and French looms, satins and silks from England and France, carpets from both, leather from France and Prussia, wines from all Europe, a vast amount of ribbons and gewgaws—mere baubles in the shape of jewelry. The amount expended by Americans annually for foreign ribbons and laces would *supply the entire nation with food*. While our looms stand idle, and our great manufactories are compelled to work half time or stop altogether, our insatiable, suicidal vanity feeds the operatives of other lands, fills the coffers of other governments to overflowing, and leaves us in their debt. We do not advocate sumptuary laws, but we hope that Congress will look the evil squarely in the face as Secretary MCCULLOCH has painted it, and endeavor to devise some method whereby this folly may be ended.

ONE OF SECRETARY MCCULLOCH'S IDEAS.

The Secretary of the Treasury thinks the solution of our financial difficulties may be arrived at by legislating at once specific contracts to be executed in coin, precisely as the Government is now doing in its receipts for Customs and in the payment of the bonds. He argues that the result of such a law would prevent the drain upon our specie, which, for the last ten years, has flowed unceasingly to foreign countries. A still stronger argument is the fact that the removal of all uncertainty in regard to the value of the currency will insure stability to business and security to enterprise. The force of the latter argument must be apparent. There is no difference a public opinion concerning the evil results of a depreciated currency, or the fact that the legal tender acts were war measures, therefore only temporary. But while we may secure stability by adopting specie contract payments, it is doubtful the power of the Government to check the flow of specie to Europe. That is a matter governed solely by trade. As long as the American people trade largely abroad, and pay more for luxuries than the necessaries of life, as long as we expend more for laces and ribbons than we receive for our corn and pork, the balance will be against us. There is one thing that the embryo political economists invariably overlook in discussing this subject, namely, the fact that the excess of importations over exportations is not so much the result of the actual wants, as the capabilities of the people. From 1790 to 1860, the flow of specie set from England to France. England had the greatest resources. But the French people, in making those resources tributary to them, exhibits a skill in practical economy unknown to the English or their neareat kin, ourselves. This has been proven time after time in agriculture, industrial pursuits and the matter of domestic economy. Nothing but a protective tariff can prevent the drain of gold from America to Europe.

REDEMPTION AGENCIES.

Secretary MCCULLOCH and the Comptroller of the Currency hold tenaciously to the theory that a central redeeming agency be established "as early as practicable." The proposition is plausible. Nothing could be easier than the establishment of a National Bank in New York, without circulation, by the national banks of the country, to serve the sole purpose of a redeeming agency, or, as the Comptroller says, "the clearing house of all bank notes in circulation." Such an agency would remedy a number of evils growing out of the banking system, and insure safety to the currency. But all of the advantages would be more than counteracted by the evils growing out of an overshadowing money centre. New York is the commercial centre of the continent to-day. It bids fair to retain its position. Already it compels the greater portion of the country to contribute to it.

It would be bad enough to have a vast redeeming agency in New York, but the proposition to have one department devoted to redemptions and exchanges, and another to a general banking business, is still worse. If we are to have a central agency for redemption, let it be under the exclusive control of the Government, and exclude the general banking business. But why not have three or four redeeming agencies; one for the East, one for the West, one for the South, and one for the Southwest? Or, that for the West might also supply the South-for the West might also supply the South-west. If a country, with the population of Great Britain, finds it necessary to permit Scotland and Ireland to appropriate their share of specie, although the country banks have been reduced to a tenth of what they were eighty or a hundred years ago, why should the United States Government limit its favors to a single section, or exact laws sacrificing one part of the country at the expense of the rest?

A wood train on the Cleveland and Toledo Railroad, was thrown from the track Monday afternoon, near Millbury Station. John Niland and Michael Costello were killed; John Mahoney was seriously and four or five others slightly injured.

The Removal of the Track of the Pennsylvania Railroad from Liberty Street and the New Depots.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Through the columns of your valuable paper I desire to ask the attention of our citizens and the members of the City Councils to the consideration of the above desirable project. This, in my humble opinion, is of more importance and more comprehensive in its results for the comfort, safety and future welfare of our city than any measure that has come before them for some time. All know the bad effects on all kinds of travel and business, as now conducted on Liberty street, endangering both life and property by being traversed with locomotive engines with long trains of cars attached, at all hours of the day and night.

As I understand it, all the present tracks will be removed, and there will be but one remaining that of the Fort Wayne road, across it, connecting with the Union Depot, near Canal street. Persons arriving in our city can be safely landed without fear or danger of being run over by cars or engines, as in the case now, and a saving can be made in transfer for business of all descriptions. I would here suggest that the Birmingham Horse Railroad be extended, via Smithfield street, to Liberty street, then the new line of road from Allegheny City via Hand street to Smithfield street and Seventh avenue, with the Citizens' Passenger Road from off Penn street, and laid down on Liberty street, would enable all persons going to and from these depots to be carried promptly and at low rates to all portions of the city and various districts adjoining. By removing the Citizens' Passenger Road from Penn to Liberty street, it would give us the free use of the former street for all other modes of conveyance, both for driving, moving the products of our various manufacturing establishments, and a safe route to the different cemeteries in the Southwards, thereby relieving it of its present overcrowded condition.

Then as to establishing depots on Try or Diamond street, for the local travel on the Pan Handle route, it will be a great saving of time to persons who now go to and from the Union Depot on the south end of the Monongahela Bridge. With another for the local freight, &c., which, if for no other purpose, will relieve our city of a *great blight*, as at present constructed, if not as a sanitary measure.

Much more, Mr. Editor, can be said in favor of these subjects. My present object is to call attention to what I think will be of great importance to the safety and comfort and convenience of those who use the above roads to and from our city of PITTSBURGH.

NAPOLEON III. should take immediate steps to quadruple the number of the mourners engaged to weep at his funeral. The man who managed to secure the plaudits of the populace so late as '64 and '65, and hated his life in kindly nature, is not the man to be set back by the trifling neglect of the entire press and public dispatches to express regrets at his reported taking off.

THE Spanish government favors journalists in foreign appointments. Senor Posada Herrera, Minister to Rome, Senor Elecouria, Minister to England, Senor Topete, Minister to Portugal, Senor Alhaeon, Minister to Copenhagen, Senor Vago, Minister to Portugal, Senor Navarro, Minister to Turkey, Senor Montemar, Minister to Berlin, and Senor Roberts, Minister to Belgium, have all been connected with the press at one time or another. The greater portion of them have made journalism the business of their lives.

ONE of the most remarkable decisions ever arrived at by a jury—and some of them have been very remarkable indeed—was that of the jury in the case of the Cold Spring Bank, at Albany. Before rendering their verdict, the jury re-entered the Court for instructions upon an important point, namely, whether it would be considered insanity or folly, although perfectly sane before and after the killing, was seized with "unconquerable frenzy" upon meeting his victim. The Judge replied that was a point they must decide for themselves, as they decided that the case was "sui generis." We think the decision rather a bad precedent. Apart from the merits of the case, there is the fact to be taken into consideration that such decisions tend to encourage the often hereafter by equally ignorant juries.

SENOR MANUEL LEONE ROMERO, the new Spanish Minister, is described as a modest, quiet young man, of sound judgment, winning manners, very reserved and very handsome. A fine portrait for a diplomat. He is the descendant of an English family that settled in Cadiz about the close of the last century, which accounts, doubtless, for his judgment and reserve. We may attribute his winning manners and good looks to his Spanish blood and cosmopolitan education. Senor ROMERO was private secretary to General Concha at Havana several years ago. Returning to Spain, he assisted in founding, and subsequently became editor-in-chief of the *Epoca* newspaper. That was in 1856, when the Union Liberal party was a power. He made an excellent Director of the Postoffice, and when elected Deputy to the Cortes in 1858, was very active. During the administration of Gonzales Bravo, ROMERO was one of the most active members of the Revolutionary Junta of Madrid. He has passed several years in the United States, and is an ardent admirer of our institutions.

COMMODORE VANDERBILT publishes a card denying the statement that he received $500,000 for the Erie stock he held last spring, and $1,500,000 bonus in order to make him loose his grip on the road. He says he had no dealings with the Company, never sold them any stock and never received any bonus. The tough old fighter can substantiate these assertions, then Mr. Jay Gould's suits pushed by the Directors of the road against the Commodore for the recovery of $1,500,000 paid him, and to compel him to take back the $1,500,000 of stock at the $1,000,000 originally paid him by the Company, will end in smoke. The whole thing is but another incident in the Commodore's triangular duel in "Midshipman Easy." As each party prepares a shot he takes up some old unsettled score dating back of that alluded to by his opponent, and fires away at him wickedly, and discharges it indiscriminately. The last suit instituted dates back of the Buffalo, Bradford and Pittsburgh bonds. By and by they will get back to the first grading contract.

Shall Nobody be Amused?

There seems to be a general raid upon popular amusements on the part of the severer school of Christians. We have decrees against theatres, concerts, &c., and now we have most pious New York. We wish we could prevail upon the knit-fingers to dip into the practical good sense displayed by DICKENS in his "Hard Times." DICKENS takes a traveling showman, whose sledge hammer arguments with fact and nature melt the fine spun and impracticable theories of Mr. Gradgrind, who, like thousands of men and women we can think of, suffered himself to be possessed by a single idea. We believe in the parental supervision of the amusements and contemplation of evils and infirmities which did not concern him personally. That people should devote any time to mere amusement when, according to Gradgrind's and Mr. MCCOSH'S last stay-sewn and a half human beings snuffed off this mortal coil every second, was inexpressibly shocking. If the history of the human race has taught anything, it would not be difficult to demonstrate that a large portion of the hopelessly insane have been driven to insanity by the contemplation of purely imaginary evils or magnificent realities. Those who never see a play are not a bit frightful than a beautiful picture when they can possibly avoid it, are not apt to display evidences of insanity. It is a great pity these opponents of innocent amusement did not devote their time and talent to the task of improving, instead of decrying them. By and by they will tell us that laughter is a sin. We hope the world will stick to its vulgarisms, and laugh and sneeze without waiting for any one's permission.

A Fine Engraving.

A fine specimen of the graver's art is the picture of "Governor Curtin and His Family," published by Messrs. Bradly & Co., of Philadelphia. The picture, a finely tinted steel line engraving, the work of John Sartain, whose name stands at the head of the profession in this country, is taken from Cogswell's painting. Viewed simply as a specimen of the graver's art, it is a masterpiece. The execution of the design, however, in this instance should be secondary to the merit which the artist in painting the General and his family arranged the group with consummate taste, cast aside the stereotyped columns, curtains and tables with their books and chairs, and brought a picture of the General "at home," in a charming out-door scene, with foliage for a back-ground. Each of the figures were treated from a different stand-point, with a right admirable result. The General stands beside his wife, on her left, while the children occupy the space upon Mrs. Grant's right. The picture on her Shetland pony, the boys looking up, as if were from their amusements. The figures are easy, natural, and unconstrained, affording a gratifying relief from the stiff positions usually seen in the hunting figures commonly seen in the majority of engravings. The picture is sold by subscription, is about twenty-four by thirty-two inches, and is just such a picture as will be prized by all who know the General. The likenesses are said to be excellent.

Washington Topics and Gossip.

PUTTING IN THE KNIFE.

MR. E. B. WASHBURNE, who succeeds Mr. STEVENS as Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, declares that he intends to cut down the estimates of the secretaries before the appropriation bills are framed, and then to oppose all additions and to "push things."

SCHEMES OF FINANCE.

Financial projects will be urged by their framers, but many well informed persons are of opinion that nothing will be done of material importance until after the inauguration of Gen. GRANT. Certain it is that Secretary MCCULLOCH will not recommend any change in the present financial system. The resumption of specie payments will be much talked about, but no action will result. The Secretary is of the opinion that the National Banks increase their specie reserves by adding to them their coin dividends, and that the United States stock held as security for their notes.

THE FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT.

An effort will be made to secure the passage of a constitutional amendment, to be proposed to the States for ratification, establishing universal suffrage over the country. It will require some time to secure the ratification of such an amendment, and Mr. BINGHAM will endeavor to secure the desired result more speedily by the passage of a law giving all citizens, without regard to color, the right to vote, and to hold office if every kind in the States and territories.

THE PLAN AFLOAT.

Some movements will be made toward the restoration of our merchant marine and the establishment of American transatlantic lines of steamers. Perhaps the best way of securing the desired lines of steamers, without any direct outlay, will be the passage of the Ocean Mail bill, now before Congress, which authorizes the Postmaster General to make contracts with owners of American steamers for the conveyance of mails between our Atlantic ports and the ports of Great Britain, France, or North Germany.

AN INTERESTING FACT.

To those suffering from Corns and Bunions the statement of prominent gentlemen of this and other cities who have found prompt relief from the pain occasioned by these pests of the feet by the use of

Petersen's Corn and Bunion Ointment,

Will be hailed with delight.

Hundreds and Thousands have used it and do not hesitate to advocate it the merit which is claimed. As there is no imitation in the market, be careful to purchase of reliable druggists only.

RETAIL PRICE, 50 CENTS.

A liberal discount to the Trade.

Sent by mail on receipt of 60 cents. Sold Wholesale and Retail by the Manufacturer and Proprietor,

A. J. RANKIN, Druggist,

44 ST. CLAIR STREET, Pittsburgh.

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SPECIAL SALE

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HORNE'S

77 and 79

Market Street.

Holiday Goods

Cheaper Than Ever.

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A LOT OF GOOD HEMSTITCHED

Linen Handkerchiefs,

AT FIFTEEN CENTS.

A New Lot of Gent's Fine Linen

INITIAL

Handkerchiefs,

JUST RECEIVED.

ANOTHER BIG LOT OF THOSE

Cheap Hoop Skirts,

READY TO-DAY.

STOCK COMPLETE

In Every Department

IN PRICE.

Everything Greatly Reduced

Good Fleeced Cotton Stockings

TWENTY CENTS A PAIR.

FUR GLOVES, MUFFLERS, HOODS,

Nubias, Scarfs,

AND

Heavy Wool Underwear.

JOS. HORNE & CO.

NEW ORLEANS SUGAR

AND

MOLASSES.

STRICTLY CHOICE

New Orleans Sugar and Molasses,

Now landing from Steamboat New York, and for sale by

WM. MILLER,

Nos. 221 and 223 LIBERTY STREET.

SELF OILER.

HOLLAND & CODY'S

Improved Lubricator

FOR OILING MACHINERY, ENGINES, SHAFTING, &c.

The Simplest Cheapest and very best Instrument for the purpose in use. It will save 50 per cent. of oil, besides the labor required to apply it by hand. No Manufacturing Establishment where Machinery or oil is used can afford to be without it. Apply to the Proprietor, Mr. JOHN STROHM, at the Office of the Pittsburgh Planing Mill, where he can be found at all times.

FLOWERS.

OUR STOCK OF

CAMELIAS, TUBE ROSES,

Bouvardias, Roses,

AND OTHER DESIRABLE FLOWERS,

For Bouquets, Baskets and Designs, is equal to any in the market.

Orders left at 137 LIBERTY STREET, will receive prompt attention.

J. KNOX,

137 LIBERTY STREET.

JOHN H. TATE. JOHN MUNDEN. WM. TATE, JR.

TATE, MUNDEN & TATE,

PLUMBERS, GAS

AND

STEAM FITTERS,

227 LIBERTY ST., Pittsburgh, Pa. 50 FEDERAL ST., Allegheny City.

HOUSES FITTED UP WITH GAS PIPES, HOT AND COLD WATER, &c., by Experienced and Practical Workmen. nwf

84 WOOD STREET

New Fall Goods.

200 cases Men's and Boy's Fur and Wool

HATS,

Just received, embracing the following New Styles

REPUBLIC, WELLINGTON, FIRST NIGHT, CROWN, CHESTNUT, IRVING, NEW DEAL, SABER,

TRAVELER, TOURIST, PRESIDENT, PACIFIC, NEW YORK, VANDERBILT, GRANT, &c. &c. &c.

Also, a Full Line of Ladies', Misses' and Children's

HATS, FLOWERS, RIBBONS,

AND

Millinery Goods,

To which I invite the Attention of the Trade.

R. H. PALMER.

PHILOSOPHY OF MARRIAGE.—A New Course of Lectures, as delivered at the New York Museum of Anatomy, embracing the subjects of Manhood, Love, Courtship, Marriage, Physiology and the Laws Governing generation, with the causes of Sterility, Impotency, Abortion, Nervousness, &c., &c., fully explained. Every Married or Single Person should read it. Marriage Philosophy sent free by mail. Price 25 cents.

Pocket Volumes containing these Lectures will be forwarded to persons desiring them, by addressing, for the same, SECRETARY NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY AND SCIENCE, 618 Broadway, New York. nwf

NOTICE TO THE CHEESE TRADE.

60 cases Young America,
75 cases English Dunsmore, mild,
50 cases New York Factory, mild,
50 cases New York Factory, mild,
50 cases New York Factory, mild,
For sale by WM. A. HOWARD AND MILLER, 615 Liberty street.

AN INTERESTING FACT.

To those suffering from Corns and Bunions the statement of prominent gentlemen of this and other cities who have found prompt relief from the pain occasioned by these pests of the feet by the use of

Petersen's Corn and Bunion Ointment,

Will be hailed with delight.

Hundreds and Thousands have used it and do not hesitate to advocate it the merit which is claimed. As there is no imitation in the market, be careful to purchase of reliable druggists only.

RETAIL PRICE, 50 CENTS.

A liberal Discount to the Trade.

Sent by mail on receipt of 60 cents. Sold Wholesale and Retail by the Manufacturer and Proprietor,

A. J. RANKIN, Druggist,

44 ST. CLAIR STREET, Pittsburgh.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

A MEETING OF THE PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION will be held at the Exchange, on TUESDAY, at 3 o'clock, at forty Books. A full attendance is requested. Business of importance will be presented.

By order of the President.

W. F. BROOKS, Secretary.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

WE WILL RECEIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS for the AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, AT ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR, which is the lowest club rate.

J. KNOX,

137 Liberty street.

VENISON LUNCH.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1868.

The undersigned invites the public, especially his late comrades in field, to celebrate the day of the battle of Fredericksburg, by which he lost his leg. A fine VENISON LUNCH will be served all day. R. GALLIGATH, late 5th Pa. Cav.,

No. 65 Diamond alley.

LIBERTY HALL,

EAST LIBERTY,

NOW OPEN FOR ALL PERFORMANCES OF A FIRST-CLASS CHARACTER,

BALLS, PROMENADE PARTIES, &C.

DINING ROOMS in direct communication with the Hall.

For particulars address

JOHN PERCHMENT,

WILKINS POSTOFFICE, Pa.

FURS! FURS! FURS!

Ladies' and Gentlemen's Fur Emporium and Manufactory, No. 138 Wood Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The subscriber being the only REGULAR FUR MANUFACTURER IN THE CITY, would call the attention of Ladies and Gentlemen to his large stock, comprising every variety known to the trade, and made in the most fashionable styles, and of the finest materials that could be excelled by any house. All work is in fair trim, and I will guarantee satisfaction. Furs Altered, Repaired and Cleaned in the neatest and best manner.

LOUIS MULLER,

No. 138 WOOD STREET.

INVENTORS! INVENTORS!—AGENCY FOR PATENTS. WM. A. CONNOLLY, Solicitor of Patents, No. 3 Patent Agency, opposite U. S. Patent Office, Washington, D. C., will make preliminary examinations, give advice, and prepare and prosecute applications for Letters Patent of the U. S. No fee charged in such case unless a Patent be obtained. Terms for ordinary cases. Special attention paid to Rejected Applications, Caveats, Reissues, &c., &c. Circulars free.

DR. SARGENT'S

Diuretic or Back-Ache Pills.

They have been used extensively for upward of forty years, and have given perfect satisfaction in every instance. They are recommended by all who have used them. For sale by druggists.

SKATES

FOR

LADIES AND GENTS.

The Largest and Best Assortment

IN THE CITY.

NEW YORK AND BOSTON CLUB SKATES,

OF EVERY VARIETY.

WHOLESALE BUYERS will find it to their advantage to give me a call before purchasing elsewhere.

Also, a full line of BUILDERS' HARDWARE, &c.

S. FAHNESTOCK,

74 WOOD STREET.

NEW ORLEANS

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.

We have just received our first arrival of the season, consisting of 20 hhds SUGAR, 66 hhds MOLASSES, which we offer to the Trade at the Lowest Market Rates. We expect weekly arrivals during the season.

J. S. DILWORTH & CO.,

136 and 132 SECOND AVENUE.

W. W. WATTLES

No. 41 Fifth Avenue, near Wood,

DEALER IN

Fine Gold Watches, Diamonds, Rich Gold Jewelry, Sterling Silver Ware, Plated Ware, Clocks, Fancy Goods, &c., &c.

Having made large additions for the coming HOLIDAYS, we invite a call from our friends. Prices as Low as the quality of the goods will permit. ☞ An early call is solicited.

GET READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

M'FADDEN'S

96 Federal Street, 96

ALLEGHENY.

Come and see the Beautiful Selection of Gold and Silver Goods, Watches, Jewelry, Silver Ware, $250 GOLD AND SILVER HAIRS, $3 to $100 AMERICAN LEVERS AND SWISS IMITATIONS, Warranted the very best for the money. Also, a large assortment of PEARLS, CORALS, GARNETS, JET, &c., &c. Also, a large assortment of CUTLERY, for Pocket and Table, consisting of Gold Steel Knives, TORTOISE SHELL SETS, &c., &c. Also, a large assortment of Fancy Goods, Toilet Sets, &c., &c. Fancy Goods will be bought during the sale for cash, and will be sold not at fancy prices, but at a calculated small profit. Our stock of Watches, $250 and upwards, will be sold lower than those who pay from $2,000 to $3,000. Many Pittsburghers find it pays to make their purchases in Allegheny. Try it and be convinced.

THOS. M'FADDEN, JR.,

96 FEDERAL STREET, ALLEGHENY.

MISSISQUOI

Spring Water,

For Sale by Principal Druggists.

CURES CANCER,

CURES SCROFULA,

CURES CUTANEOUS AFFECTIONS,

And All the Impurities of the Blood.

AND THE SOVEREIGN REMEDY FOR

BRIGHT'S DISEASE,

And other Diseases of the Kidneys.

This is the original Spring Water from Vermont which has wrought so many wonderful cures, and is advertised only to distinguish it from the many imitations that are attempted to be palmed upon the public as being equal to the virtues of the MISSISQUOI.

☞ Pamphlets containing an account of many Wonderful Cures, attested by eminent Physicians and Others, can be had gratis, by calling at or addressing anote to

MISSISQUOI SPRINGS,

No. 335 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

NEW GROCERY

AND

TEA STORE.

HAGAN & McCARTY

HAVE OPENED DRAVOS OLDSTAND,

No. 23 Diamond, Pittsburgh,

WITH A SPLENDID STOCK OF

FRESH GROCERIES, TEAS, SPICES, FRUITS, DOMESTIC LIQUORS, WINES, &c., &c.,

Selected with great care for family use, which they will sell WHOLESALE AND RETAIL at the LOWEST MARKET RATES.

Their old friends and the public generally are cordially invited to examine their stock.

N. B.—They will keep on hand a constant supply of Fine White Mountain Lime for sale.

GET READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

M'FADDEN'S

96 Federal Street, 96

ALLEGHENY.

Come and see the Beautiful Selection of Gold and Silver Goods, Watches, Jewelry, Silver Ware, $250 GOLD AND SILVER HAIRS, $3 to $100 AMERICAN LEVERS AND SWISS IMITATIONS, Warranted the very best for the money. Also, a large assortment of PEARLS, CORALS, GARNETS, JET, &c., &c. Also, a large assortment of CUTLERY, for Pocket and Table, consisting of Gold Steel Knives, TORTOISE SHELL SETS, &c., &c. Also, a large assortment of Fancy Goods, Toilet Sets, &c., &c. Fancy Goods will be bought during the sale for cash, and will be sold not at fancy prices, but at a calculated small profit. Our stock of Watches, $250 and upwards, will be sold lower than those who pay from $2,000 to $3,000. Many Pittsburghers find it pays to make their purchases in Allegheny. Try it and be convinced.

THOS. M'FADDEN, JR.,

96 FEDERAL STREET, ALLEGHENY.

FISK & HATCH,

Bankers and Dealers in Government Securities, and Financial Agents of the Central Pacific Railroad Company,

NO. 5 NASSAU ST., NEW YORK.

WELDON & KELLY,

HAVE THE LARGEST STOCK IN WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA OF

GAS FIXTURES,

CHANDELIERS,

BRACKETS,

LAMPS, &C.,

FOR GAS AND OIL. Also, CARBON AND LUBRICATING OILS, BENZINE and LAMP GOODS.

147 WOOD STREET.

Urling, Follansbee & Co.,

121 WOOD STREET,

CORNER OF FIFTH AVENUE.

OFFER AT RETAIL A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF

CLOTHING,

FOR

Gentlemen, Boys and Children's Wear.

ALSO,

GENTLEMEN'S

Furnishing Goods

Our Goods are marked at the LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES, IN PLAIN FIGURES, MAKING BUT THE ONE PRICE, WITH NO DEVIATION.

URLING, FOLLANSBEE & CO.,

121 WOOD STREET,

CORNER OF FIFTH AVENUE.

ARRIVAL

AT

CRAMER'S

NEW BUTTER DEPOT,

No. 10 Fifth Avenue,

CORNER UNION STREET,

OF

New York State and Western Reserve

BUTTER,

AND FOR SALE BY THE FIRKIN, PAIL OR POUND,

AT LIVING PRICES.

ROCK the BABY

IN EARNEST'S

PATENT SWING CRIB,

SOLD ONLY BY

LEMON & WEISE

Practical Furniture Manufacturers,

118 FOURTH AVENUE,

WHERE MAY BE FOUND A LARGE AND COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF PARLOR, CHAMBER AND KITCHEN FURNITURE. nwf

Rare Chance to Engage in Business.

WANTED, A PURCHASER,

FOR THE STOCK AND FIXTURES OF A FIRST-CLASS

GROCERY

AND

DRY GOODS STORE,

Of Twelve Years Standing, now doing a business of $40,000 per annum, situated in COULTERSVILLE, Allegheny county, Pa., on the line of the P. & C. R. R. Co., seventeen miles from Pittsburgh. The stock is in good order and well selected, consisting of DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, BOOTS, SHOES, HARDWARE and all articles usually kept in a first class country store. Inquire of KIRKPATRICK, HERRON & CO., 243 Liberty street, Pittsburgh, or to the subscriber on the premises, Coultersville, Allegheny county, Pa. Duncan Post Office.

nwf R. B. McQUISTON.

EXCELLENT SECURITY

THE FIRST MORTGAGE,

Thirty-Year, Six Per Cent.

GOLD BONDS

OF THE

Central Pacific

RAILROAD COMPANY.

These Bonds are the duly authorized and accredited obligations of one of the most responsible Corporations of the United States, and are secured by an absolute first lien upon the valuable grants, franchises, railroad equipment, business, etc., of the best portion of the

Great National Pacific Railroad Line,

Extending eastwardly from the navigable waters of the Pacific Coast to the lines now rapidly building from the Eastern States.

They bear six per cent. interest per annum, in gold, and BOTH PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ARE EXPRESSLY MADE "PAYABLE IN UNITED STATES GOLD COIN."

The first semi-annual Coupons are payable, July 1st and January 1st, in New York City.

The purchaser is charged the accrued interest from the date of the last gold Coupons, AT THE CURRENCY RATE ONLY.

This issue of Bonds constitutes one of the Largest and most popular Corporate Loans of the country, and therefore will be constantly dealt in.

The greater portion of the Loan is now in the hands of steady investors, and will be so locked up for many months, when the Road is completed and the Loan closed, THE BONDS WILL BE EAGERLY SOUGHT FOR AT THE HIGHEST RATES.

They are issued ONLY AS THE WORK PROGRESSES, and to the same extent only as the U. S. Subsidy Bonds granted by the Government to the Pacific Railroad Company.

Nearly FIVE HUNDRED MILES of the road are now built, and the grading is well advanced on two hundred and fifty miles additional.

THE THROUGH LINE ACROSS THE CONTINENT will be completed by the middle of next year, when the Overland travel will be very large.

The local business alone, upon the completed portion, is so heavy, and so advantageous, that the gross earnings average more than a Quarter of a Million in Gold per month, of which 35 per cent. only is required for operating expenses.

The net profit upon the Company's business on the completed portion, is about double the amount of annual interest liabilities to be assumed thereupon, and will yield A SURPLUS OF NEARLY A MILLION IN GOLD after expenses and interest are paid—even if the through connection were not made.

The best lands, the richest mines, together with the largest settlement and nearest markets, lie along this portion of the Pacific Railroad, and the future development of business thereon will be proportionately great.

From these considerations it is submitted that the

CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD

BONDS,

Secured by a First Mortgage on so productive a property are among the most prom

JAS. T. BRADY & CO.

Successors to S. JONES

Cor. Fourth and Wood Streets,

BANKERS,

BUY AND SELL ALL KINDS OF

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES,

GOLD, SILVER AND COUPONS,

AT MOST FAVORABLE TERMS.

Interest Allowed on Deposits.

Money Loaned on Government Bonds at Low Market Rates.

Orders Executed for the Purchase and Sale of Stocks, Bonds and Gold.

JAS. T. BRADY & CO.

FOR SALE.

SMALL LOT OF CONNELLSVILLE RAILROAD FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS.

JAMES T. BRADY & CO.

PARTIES DESIRING TO INVEST IN

Union and Central Pacific Bonds,

CAN SAVE ONE PER CENT. by purchasing before January 1st. Bonds on hand for delivery.

JAMES T. BRADY & CO.,

Agents Central and Union Pacific R. R. Companies, corner Fourth and Wood streets.

BANKING HOUSE

OF

Ira B. M'Vay & Co.

Cor. Fourth and Smithfield Sts.

DEALERS IN ALL

Government Securities.

We will receive applications for Policies of Life Insurance in the

New National Life Insurance Co.

OF THE UNITED STATES.

Full information given at our office.

ALLEGHENY CITY

Park Improvement 7 Per Cent. Bonds,

WATER MAIN 6 PER CENT. EXTENSION BONDS, FOR SALE.

IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

Corner Fourth avenue and Smithfield street.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

TUESDAY EVENING, December 8, 1868.

Money was in more plentiful supply at many of the discount houses to-day. There was not quite a demand for loans as yesterday with different lenders, but those regularly engaged in placing good paper. Rates outside of the banks have undergone no perceptible change.

—In local stocks and bonds the market is quiet. Some few shares of bank and insurance stocks change hands at about the ruling prices of the past six months. The only exception, perhaps, to this is the present price of Allegheny bonds, for which 62 is offered and 67 asked.

—Sheriff sales Tuesday morning, December 8, 1868, at Commercial Sales Rooms, in substitute street, by A. McIlwaine, Auctioneer:

First National Bank of Allegheny $20 00
Citizens' National Bank 10 00
Second National Bank 10 00
Allegheny National Bank 0 10

—A meeting of one per cent. scrippers to petition Congress to guarantee the bonds of the Union and Central Pacific Railroad Company before the first of next January. These bonds are offered in amounts to suit purchasers at the well-known banking house of James T. Brady & Co. It is scarcely necessary to say that the bonds on the Union Pacific Railroad Company are second only to the Government bonds, and probably for a permanent investment are their equal. Investors can obtain all needful information by handling the elaborate pamphlet which is furnished them on application at the counter of James T. Brady & Co.

—Messrs. Ira B. M'Vay & Co. report the following quotations of government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cook & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Close.
6's, '81		
6's, '81, old		
6's, '81, new		
6's, '82		
6's, '83		
6's, '84		
6's, '85		
6's, '87		
6's, '88		
6's, '89		
6's, '90		
6's, '91		
6's, '92		
6's, '93		
6's, '94		
6's, '95		
6's, '96		
6's, '97		
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6's, 1960		
6's, 1961		
6's, 1962		
6's, 1963		
6's, 1964		
6's, 1965		
6's, 1966		
6's, 1967		
6's, 1968		
Gold		

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

	Dec. 7.	Dec. 8.	Yes.	Dec.
6's, '81				
6's, '81, old				
6's, '81, new				
6's, '82				
6's, '83				
6's, '84				
6's, '85				
6's, '87				
6's, '88				
6's, '89				
6's, '90				
6's, '91				
6's, '92				
6's, '93				
6's, '94				
6's, '95				
6's, '96				
6's, '97				
6's, '98				
6's, '99				
6's, 1900				
6's, 1901				
6's, 1902				
6's, 1903				
6's, 1904				
6's, 1905				
6's, 1906				
6's, 1907				
6's, 1908				
Gold				

—The closing sales, made up from the sales recorded at J. W. Gerdes's Stock Rooms, Agents Building, No. 56 Fourth avenue, express the prices of Railway stocks, Gold, etc., at the regular session of the New York Boards during the day:

	Dec. 4, 1868.	Dec. 5, 1868.	Dec. 7, 1868.	Dec. 8, 1868.
N. Y. Central				
Erie				
Hudson River				
Reading				
Michigan Central				
Illinois Central				
Cleve. and Pitts.				
Chicago and Rock Island				
Pittsburg and Fort Wayne				
Chicago and North Western				
Do. preferred				
Fort Wayne				
Ohio and Miss.				
Toledo				
Wabash				
Western U. Tel.				
Adams Express				
U. S. Express				
Canton				
Cumberland Coal				
Pacific Mail				
New York Coal				
North Illinois				
Quicksilver				
Mariposa				
Mariposa preferred				
Boston Water Power				
Canton Co.				
Pittsburg				
Allegheny Valley				
Panama				
Terre Haute				
Terre Haute preferred				
Ohio and Mississippi				
Ohio and Mississippi certificates				
Gold				

—A comparison between yesterday's and today's closing prices shows the following changes:

	Bos.	Tims.	Alle.	Dec.
N. Y. Central				
Erie				
Hudson River				
Reading				
Michigan Central				
Illinois Central				
Cleve. and Pitts.				
Chicago and Rock Island				
Pittsburg and Fort Wayne				
Chicago and North Western				
Do. preferred				
Fort Wayne				
Ohio and Miss.				
Toledo				
Wabash				
Western U. Tel.				
Adams Express				
Gold				

—The books of the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad Company were closed on the 1st inst., to receive for the annual election, to take place in January. Under the present management the road has been placed upon a sound dividend-paying basis, having earned for the past year 15 per cent., of which 8 per cent. has been divided among the stockholders. The present Direction are largely interested in the stock, and the stockholders satisfied with their management. The progeny condition of the road, however, has baffled some parties heretofore to get control. They do not own the stock, but are in the market buying proxies to vote on paying from one-half to one per cent. for them. It stands every stockholder who has any interest in the road to hold on to his proxies, and not allow them to be sold by brokers until they understand by whom they are to be used. The present managers are honest and economical in running the road. They will receive the proxies of any stockholders who desire their continuance in office, but will not buy their election. The stockholders control the situation, and if the road passes into the hands of speculators, will have no one to blame but themselves.

—The Cleveland and Toledo and Lake Shore Railroads have declared a dividend of 6 per cent., making the total dividend for the year 8 per cent. Up to six o'clock no injunction had been made against its payment. The books of the North-western Railway closed on Saturday, preparatory to paying a semi-dividend of 5 per cent. on both classes of stock, free of Government tax. The Cleveland and Pittsburgh Road will also pay its last instalment of 8 per cent. for this year before the books reopen. It is anticipated by the present managers that they can safely divide 10 per cent. next year.

—James W. Kennedy, Broker, No. 9 Fourth avenue, quotes the following prices for Gold and Sterling Bonds, Coupons, Gold, Silver, Treasury Notes, State and Municipal Securities, Railroad Bonds, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks, being represented in the New York Stock Board every day while in session, to purchase and sell on commission any stocks on the regular lists on the same terms as the New York brokers. Government, Gold and Railway stocks purchased for customers on liberal margin.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
TUESDAY EVENING, Dec. 8, 1868. }

Notwithstanding the fact that the weather to-day was extremely unfavorable for outdoor transactions, there was a fair trade doing, our principal business thoroughfares were thronged with wagons and drays. Nearly all manufacturing establishments are resuming at their full capacity, and their products are carried off as fast as turned out. The prospect, however, is the manufacturers are very small, but, of course, justify them in continuing operations. Prices for most part have undergone but little change.

For the past two days the receipts of leading articles of produce per river and rail were as follows: Flour 1,370 bbls, apples 30 bbls, cheese 30 boxes, corn 525 sacks and 200 bbls, oats 1,000 sacks, rye 161 sacks, oats 1,300 sacks, butter 9 packages, and bulk meats (some) 2,320 pieces. This does not include the large receipts reported by Messrs. Fahnestock & Co.

We quote as follows, which are the wholesale store prices, unless otherwise noted:

Apples—We quote inferior to fair at $1@2 per bbl, and choice to extra at $2 25@3 50 per bbl.

Ashes—Pearls—Sales to-day at 9c per lb gross and in store at 9c per lb.

Bacon, Lard, etc.—The stock of all meats is nearly exhausted. No new offering except a small lots of hams at retail. Prices are nominal for all kinds. We quote sliced hams at 20@22c; sugar cured hams 18@19c, and sugar cured shoulders 12@13c per lb. No sales in market. Sales of new mess pork at $21 @ $22.

Butter—Choice grades sell readily at 35@40c per lb, and extra as high as 45@50c per lb. Common grades are rather dull of sale at 30@35c per lb.

Eggs—There is a fair demand for eggs at 35@36c per dozen for choice. Retailers are asking 40@45c per dozen.

Feathers—Choice small white (new crop) are in fair receipt, and we quote them at $1 30@1 75, and choice at $1 90 per bushel.

Lard Oil—Firm and scarce. We quote extra No. 1 at $1 90, and No. 2 at $1 75 per gallon.

Lumber—Demand fair and prices firm. We quote Ohio Common at $26; New York Common $26; Factory $25@26; Hamburg Mouldings, Ohio Sweetener $26; Lindsay $26, and Western Reserve $25@26 per M.

Cranberries—Choice articles of cranberries are scarce and quoted at the high rates of $20@25 per bbl.

Feathers—We quote choice geese feathers at 65@70c per lb. Other qualities are nominal.

Dried Fruits—The receipts of choice articles of apples and peaches are light. We quote the former apples at 6@7c per lb; choice halved peaches 12@13c, and quarters 10@11c per lb, as to quality. Inferior fruit is still at nominal rates.

Hay—We quote baled hay at from $16@18 per ton, as to quality. Loose timothy hay from country wagons may be quoted more active and in demand at $18@19 per ton, as to quality.

Hops—Sales of hops at 35@37c per lb.

Honey—Sales of honey at 30@35c per lb in small lots from store.

Hay—Baled hay is in good receipt and dull at $16@18 per ton as to quality. Loose timothy from country wagons at from $17 50@18 per ton, as to quality.

Potatoes—There is a better demand, and prices are firm. We quote peachblows, in depot, at 50c, and from store at 55c per bushel. Choice Jersey sweet potatoes are scarce, and sell at 75c@$1 00 per bushel.

Onions—Market firmer, and we quote choice at $3 bbl or bush.

Mixed Meal—We quote at 1[illegible]@[illegible] per lb.

Shorts—There is a fair demand for flaxseed at $2 40@2 bushel. Clover seed is nominal at $7 50 @ bushel.

Meal Feed—The following are the Pearl Mills prices per hundred: Bran $1 10, whip stuff $1 30, middlings $1 20, screenings $1 10 and Rye shorts $2 00.

Poultry—We quote dressed turkeys at 18c, chickens at 15c, and geese at 12c per lb.

Rags—There is a good demand, and prices are firm and unchanged in prices. We quote from store as follows: Linen rags 5c per lb; good spring wheat flour $7 25@7 75, and white or winter wheat flour in sacks, $7 50@8 00, and in barrels at $8@8 50; extra family in barrels $10 00, and in sacks $9 75 bbl, and spring $9 00 in bbls and $7 50 in sacks 5 bbl.

Rye Flour—We quote at $7 25@7 50 per bbl.

Rough Rice—We quote at 6@6½c per lb, according to quality.

Grain—The market is quiet and unchanged. The receipts from the West are large, but nearly all transferred in Elevator direct to Eastern cars. We quote red winter wheat at $2 30@2 35 per bushel, and some extra at higher rates.

Oatmeal—Sales of new ordered at $5 12 @5 25 per bbl.

Grain—The market is quiet and unchanged. The receipts from the West are large, but nearly all transferred in Elevator direct to Eastern cars. We quote red winter wheat at $2 30@2 35 per bushel, and some extra at higher rates.

Oatmeal—Sales of new ordered at $5 12 @5 25 per bbl.

Feathers—We quote choice geese feathers at 65@70c per lb. Other qualities are nominal.

Bacon—Choice sugar cured hams 18@19c, and sugar cured shoulders 12@13c per lb, as to quality. Inferior portions sell at nominal rates.

Hay—We quote baled hay at from $16@18 per ton, as to quality. Loose timothy hay from country wagons may be quoted more active and in demand at $18@19 per ton, as to quality.

Honey—Sales of honey at 30@35c per lb in small lots from store.

Hay—Baled hay is in good receipt and dull at $16@18 per ton as to quality. Loose timothy from country wagons at from $17 50@18 per ton, as to quality.

Potatoes—There is a better demand, and prices are firm. We quote peachblows, in depot, at 50c, and from store at 55c per bushel. Choice Jersey sweet potatoes are scarce, and sell at 75c@$1 00 per bushel.

Onions—Market firmer, and we quote choice at $3 bbl or bush.

Mixed Meal—We quote at 1[illegible]@[illegible] per lb.

Shorts—There is a fair demand for flaxseed at $2 40@2 bushel. Clover seed is nominal at $7 50 @ bushel.

Meal Feed—The following are the Pearl Mills prices per hundred: Bran $1 10, whip stuff $1 30, middlings $1 20, screenings $1 10 and Rye shorts $2 00.

Poultry—We quote dressed turkeys at 18c, chickens at 15c, and geese at 12c per lb.

Rags—There is a good demand, and prices are firm and unchanged in prices. We quote from store as follows: Linen rags 5c per lb; good spring wheat flour $7 25@7 75, and white or winter wheat flour in sacks, $7 50@8 00, and in barrels at $8@8 50; extra family in barrels $10 00, and in sacks $9 75 bbl, and spring $9 00 in bbls and $7 50 in sacks 5 bbl.

Rye Flour—We quote at $7 25@7 50 per bbl.

Rough Rice—We quote at 6@6½c per lb, according to quality

The Daily Commercial.

CITY MATTERS.

EDUCATIONAL.

Meeting of the Central Board—Reports of the City Superintendent and Principal of the High School—The Holiday Vacation—Visiting Committee to be Appointed—Additional Teachers Required.

The Central Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting in the Central High School building, corner of Sixth avenue and Wood street, at two o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Members present—Messrs. Aiken, Anderson, Chadwick, Harrison, Lindsay, Ways, Noble, Sweet, Craig, Taylor, Sargeant, Shaw, Wilson, and President Frew, 13.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL OF THE HIGH SCHOOL.

The Secretary then read the report of the Principal of the High School, as follows:

PITTSBURGH, December 7, 1868.

To the Central Board of Education:

GENTLEMEN—The principal of the High School respectfully asks leave to report for the month ending November 27, 1868.

The school was in session seventeen days, during which time the attendance was as follows—Males, 95; females, 95; greatest attendance of males, 78; least attendance of males, 70; greatest attendance of females, 87; greatest total attendance, 165; least total attendance, 162; average per cent. of attendance of males, 91.23; females, 92.30; total average per cent. of attendance, 91.76. The commercial department was in session nineteen days, during which sixty-four females attended, with an average per cent. of attendance of 96.26. The Commercial department was in session nineteen days, and was attended by fifty-two males.

Males attending from High School.....25
" " Preparatory.....27
" " Normal School.....1
Males not attending High School.....1
Females attending High School.....59
" " Preparatory.....5
" " Normal School.....4
Total.....102

Total attendance of Commercial Department—Males.....52; Females.....50; Total.....102

In all the departments—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
High School	95	95	190
Normal School	1	4	5
Preparatory	27	5	32
Commercial School	52	50	102
Whole number	175	154	329

Respectfully submitted,

PETTIGREW DAVIS, Principal.

The report was accepted and approved.

REPORT OF THE CITY SUPERINTENDENT.

The Secretary then read the report of the City Superintendent, as follows:

To the Central Board of Education:

GENTLEMEN—I have to report most respectfully, submit to your honorable body the following report of the condition of the public schools for the month of November, 1868.

Whole number of teachers employed—including all the teachers reported in the other music teachers, 30 female teachers—as they are appointed to the different departments as follows: High School, 6; Preparatory, 5; Normal, 1; total, 8. Colored schools—Males, 1; female, 1; total, 2. Teachers of music—Males, 3; female, 1; total, 4. Whole number of teachers, 30; average number belonging, 1,000; average number in attendance, 927; average per cent. of attendance, 92.70; number of pupils in the primary departments, 500; number of pupils in the grammar department, 427. Principal of second grade—males, 1; female, 1; total, 2. Principal of primary grade—males, 1; female, 1; total, 2. Number belonging to the three first classes, and corresponding to the first grade above, and not in the primary, 73. Colored schools—Males, 1; female, 1; total, 2. Number of pupils—Males, 3; female, 3; total, 6. Average number belonging, 5; average number in attendance, 5; average per cent. of attendance, 100. Number of pupils in the primary department, 6; number of pupils in the grammar department, 6. Principal of second grade—males, 1; female, 1; total, 2. Principal of primary grade—males, 1; female, 1; total, 2. Number belonging to the three first classes, and corresponding to the first grade above, and not in the primary, 2. Average per month, 2; average per cent. of attendance, 100 per month, and 100 for the year above, and 100 per month.

Whole number of pupils enrolled (the whole)....1,175; average number belonging....1,000; average number in attendance....927; average per cent. of attendance....92.70; number of pupils in the primary department....500; number of pupils in the grammar department....427; number of pupils in the primary department....6; number of pupils in the grammar department....6; number belonging to the three first classes, and corresponding to the first grade above, and not in the primary, 73; number belonging to the three first classes, and corresponding to the first grade above, and not in the primary, 2; average number belonging....5; average number in attendance....5; average per cent. of attendance....100; average per month....2; average per cent. of attendance....100; average per month....2; average per cent. of attendance....100 per month, and 100 for the year above, and 100 per month.

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The number of pupils enrolled in the Third ward, 2; Fourth ward, 2; Fifth ward, 2; Sixth ward, 2; Seventh and Eighth wards, 2; Ninth ward, 2; Tenth and Eleventh ward, 2; Twelfth ward, 2; Thirteenth ward, 2; Fourteenth ward, 2; Fifteenth ward, 2; Sixteenth ward, 2; Seventeenth ward, 2; High School, 2; Normal, 2; Preparatory, 2.

The primary institute held during the past week was one of the most successful meetings of the kind ever held in the city. A large majority of the teachers present took a very great interest in the proceedings. I am sorry to state that some of our teachers absented themselves from the meeting. The educational improvement so manifest themselves during the institute week.

I have visited during the month twenty-six schools, and examined into the general management and the progress of the pupils in the studies, and am glad to state that in the most I find them in a thoroughly good condition.

Respectfully,

J. J. KELLY.

The report was accepted and filed.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

The Secretary reported that during the month warrants had been drawn to the amount of $12,222.26. The report was received and adopted.

ADVERTISING FOR A CONCRETE CHURCH.

Mr. Cowan presented a communication from the citizens of the Twenty-seventh ward, asking for the appointment of a German teacher for those schools. The communication was referred to the Committee on Buildings and Salaries.

Mr. Craig moved to refer it to the Committee on Salaries and Supplies. Mr. Craig objected, and desired to have the communication read in full for the information of the Board.

The communication was then read in full. It suggested that the matter be referred to the Committee on Buildings and Salaries, with instructions to report at the next meeting.

Mr. Craig moved that the communication be referred to the Committee on Buildings and Salaries, with instructions to report at the next meeting.

On motion of Mr. Craig, the Board agreed to meet on Tuesday, 22d inst., to hear the report of the Committee.

BILLS PAID.

The following bills were read: Dugan & Co., $2.25; A. Bradley & Co., $2.90; A. Andrews & Son, $2.10; Hunt & Miner, $2.50; Hunt & Co., $2.50; Burchfield, $2.25. Warrants ordered to be drawn for the payment of the same.

Mr. Lindsay moved that the Secretary be directed to procure a list of the teachers attending the Institute held in the Fifth ward, and that the Secretary communicate to Boards of Education of the Counties of Allegheny, Beaver, Washington and Westmoreland, and to the Legislature for the grant of the same rights and privileges as are conferred on the Allegheny County Institute. The matter was referred to the Committee appointed to revise the rules.

THE NEW SCHOOLS.

The President stated that some new law, or revision of the old law, was required in regard to the new districts.

Mr. Craig said that the Committee as yet were in the dark in regard to the matter, and did not know how to act. The matter was allowed to rest.

THE NEW SCHOOLS.

The Secretary of the different local boards were instructed to report at the next meeting, the number of schools assigned during the eight sessions of the schools.

THE RING, OR SCHOOL BOARD.

Mr. Shaw presented a petition signed by citizens, school directors, teachers and others, remonstrating against the discharge of Mr. Hughes, the music teacher of the Ninth district, as recommended by the Music Committee at the last meeting of the Board. The communication recommended Mr. Hughes highly, and stated that unless specific charges were brought against him he should be retained.

Mr. Craig urged that no gentleman who had ever taught should be asked to refer to any of the teacher of the Ninth district.

Mr. Wilson moved to refer to the School Department of the city.

The Secretary read a communication from the teachers and citizens of the Collins Infirmary, in favor of Miss Sommerfield for Mr. Hughes' position.

Mr. Shaw also presented a communication from the citizens of the Ninth, in favor of Mr. Hughes's retention, as the highest words of praise.

The Secretary also read the report of the Committee on Music, in favor of the discharge of the Board, which recommended for the discharge of Mr. Hughes, on the grounds of incompetency.

Mr. Lindsay asked what the charges against the teacher were, and what witnesses were assigned he would care to remain him.

Mr. Wilson spoke in favor of allowing that the matter be referred to the Committee on Hughes's district.

Mr. Craig moved that the Board now proceed to the election of a teacher for the Ninth district.

Mr. Aiken moved that a direct vote be taken on the question of the retention of Mr. Hughes, with power to act, which was lost over at the last meeting.

Low question was then called and lost.

Mr. Wilson then called for the question on the appointment of Miss Sommerfield for the School Directors of the District, wherein Mr. Hughes was engaged and the motion was put and adopted.

Mr. Harrison moved that the Music Committee be discharged, which motion did not prevail.

Mr. J. M. Taylor offered a resolution to allow the Principal of the High School to purchase a copy of Webster's High School Dictionary for the use of the school. Adopted.

Mr. Craig offered a resolution to allow the Principal of the Normal School the services of the Music Committee.

Messrs. Wilson, Aiken, Noble and others opposed the resolution, and it was lost.

Mr. Harrison proposed that the Committee, who are empowered to do so, change the time of meeting to suit the convenience of all those who are opposed, and not being pressed by Mr. Craig, if dropped.

Mr. Craig stated that he did not desire to resign through any feeling, but merely to get rid of the responsibility of the position of teacher of music. He withdrew his resignation.

VISITING COMMITTEE.

Mr. Wilson suggested that the Board be divided off into visiting committees, and moved that the President be instructed to appoint visiting committees, to make monthly visits to the High School, one each month, the chairman of each of the same to the Board. Adopted.

The committees will be announced at next meeting.

HOLIDAY VACATION.

On motion, it was resolved that a vacation of schools be had between the 25th of December and the 4th day of January.

The Secretary read a communication from Hugh Bober, the Janitor of the High School, stating that since the Normal School had commenced his labors had been greatly increased and the pay was not commensurate with the labor.

Mr. Wilson moved that the salary of the janitor be increased one hundred dollars from the first of January next. Adopted.

On motion, adjourned.

East Birmingham Council.

The Council of the Borough of East Birmingham held their regular monthly meeting in the Wilson Engine House, on north street, on Tuesday evening.

Members present—Messrs. Fink, Walters, Finney and Sellers.

In the absence of the Burgess, Mr. Theodore Zollo was called to the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The chairmen of the different committees being absent no reports were made.

The Clerk read a petition from the residents of Jane street, praying for the grading and paving of the street named, between Harmony and Rowan streets. Referred to the Street Committee.

The bill of William Finch, for paving and repairing the pump at Keeling, in regard to the Second Commissioner. The bill amounts to $225.00.

Mr. Sellers reported that Joseph Keeling had informed him that he would not run his cows along Railroad street, after night fall, nor at a later hour than 9 o'clock in the morning of the day. The report was received and filed.

Mr. Walters moved that a committee be appointed to confer with Mr. Keeling in regard to the grazing of cows on Railroad street, where it has been fenced off, to lay down the track for the Street Railway. Motion amended that the Committee on the proper committee.

Mr. Finney moved that the Secretary be directed to procure a new corporation seal. Motion amended by adding that the Secretary procure the necessary stamps for the platform scales, capable of weighing one ton, and that the expense of the latter is now being searched for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and that the Secretary procure and furnish scales should not exceed the expense of the Fairbank's Standard. Motion carried.

A Railroad Accident Prevented by a Breakman.

The most expert train on the Pan Handle Railroad, which left the Union Depot at 8:45 yesterday morning, narrowly escaped a most fearful accident. Just after the train left the Birmingham Station, the car coupling broke, letting the fore, and found an immense German who refused to pay, or show a ticket. The conductor pulled the bell rope to stop the train, and as it slowed up, the engine, which after the train climbed up, far supposing the engine had been suddenly reversed. After the bifurcated man had been put off the conductor rang the bell and the train moved on. Then the fact was discovered that the order was not observed, and the train was stopped in the same manner, when it was found down from the side of the car, on the track. The engineer was then notified, and he at once proceeded stopping the train, and he gave evidences was enabled to stop the train within a few feet of the obstruction. Had the train been moving at its usual speed before the sticking of the coupling, the engine would have run over the obstruction before it could be stopped, and the result would have been fearful to contemplate. But the train was moving slowly, and the breakman was enabled to stop it in time to prevent any accident. Had the train been moving at its usual speed, the engine would have run over the obstruction before it could be stopped, and the result would have been fearful to contemplate. But the train was moving slowly, and the breakman was enabled to stop it in time to prevent any accident.

Window Exhibition.

Rev. Andrew Gordon's Window exhibition in second United Presbyterian Church, Wylie avenue, was attended by an overflowing audience on Monday evening, and was a most splendid success. The church was handsomely decorated with evergreens, and the windows were filled with the different classes of the people of the country and nationalities, as well as birds and curiosities. We also give numerous pictures of the manners, customs, &c., of the Hebrews, Mexicans and Esquimaux, by whom he is assisted, costumed in the Russian national language, and sang a number of hymns in their native tongue. Rev. Gordon, as George Washington, sang, appeared on the platform in the costume of the father of his country. Various, in one of the largest in the country, as all the accounts of the exhibition of machinery, employs nearly a thousand hands and turns out about one carriage almost every minute from time of issue.

Besides supplying all sections of the United States with their vehicles, they have a large trade from foreign countries are very much in Europe, Asia and South America.

Since the Fairbanks scales were introduced in this city they have supplanted almost all others in the market. Messrs. Fairbanks & Co. have on hand at their warehouse, Water & Smithfield streets, a full assortment of their celebrated scales, varying from the finest gold weighing and druggist scales for the platform scales, capable of weighing over 5,000 pounds. The reputation of these scales should not need any notice in this paper. Fairbanks' scales should not need any notice in this paper. Fairbanks' Standard Scales are well known.

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Removed Safes.

Fairbanks, Morse & Co., the branch house of E. & T. Fairbanks & Co., manufacturers of the celebrated Fairbanks' Standard Scales, in order to meet the wants of their rapidly increasing business, have removed to their new and commodious warehouse, No. 92 second avenue, near Wood street. The building, which is a three-storied brick, has been fitted up in very fine style, having consulting-room, sales room, repairing shop, &c., complete. The entire building, including the cellar, is handsomely finished throughout grained stock of scales.

It is scarcely necessary to speak of the Fairbanks Scales. They are justly celebrated all over the world, and the Wood scale is undoubtedly the best. Their factory in St. Johnsbury, Vermont, is one of the largest in the country, and all the latest improved labor-saving machinery, employs nearly a thousand hands and turns out about one carriage almost every minute from time of issue.

Besides supplying all sections of the United States with their vehicles, they have a large trade from foreign countries are very much in Europe, Asia and South America.

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Thanksgiving Donations.

The Pittsburgh Association for the Relief of the Poor acknowledges, with gratitude, the receipt of one hundred dollars, from the First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, Penn avenue, Rev. Samuel Laird pastor, by Mr. Thomas K. Lane. Never was gift more timely, or more acceptable than this. The shoes sent in the name of the above church have been distributed to great advantage, and will prove very comfortable to the little recipients

DAILY COMMERCIAL.

PUBLISHED BY THE COMMERCIAL PRINTING COMPANY

OFFICE, 76 FIFTH AVENUE

C. D. BRIGHAM, - - - - - Editor

R. D. THOMPSON, Business Manager.

TERMS OF THE DAILY:

All Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., should be addressed to THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. VI. PITTSBURGH, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 9, 1868---SUPPLEMENT. NO. 75.

The Daily Commercial.

REPORT

OF THE

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

ON THE

STATE OF THE FINANCES,

FOR THE YEAR 1868.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 1, 1868.

In compliance with the requirement of law, the Secretary of the Treasury has the honor to make to Congress the following report:

In his former communications, the Secretary has expressed his views upon the principal subjects of the customs, the revenues, and the public debt, that it may be thought quite unnecessary for him again to press them upon the attention of Congress. Those subjects, however, have been the source of important, or the contrary, the public mind during the past year has been turned to their consideration with more absorbing interest than at any former period. Few subjects will, therefore, be presented for consideration at the present session of Congress of more intimate concern to the people than the proper adjustment of our revenue laws.

It must unquestionably have been a legal tribunal in the country, under the authority of this government, or any other, but gold and silver, to refuse the exchange of currency or securities, which it had issued, for gold and silver, on demand. The refusal to perform this important, perhaps, primal, part of the duty imposed upon the Supreme Court of the United States, on the 2nd day of December, 1868, by the majority opinion of

Thus an unfortunate there have been legal tenders in the country, under the authority of this government, or any other, but gold and silver, unless the embargoes of commercial nonintercourse, and the suspensions of specie payments, by the national banks, be considered exceptions. This is a very important principal, perfectly plain, and of the very highest importance. The makers of anything but gold and silver coin, and the issuers of anything but gold and silver coin, have no right to expect that the government will receive it in payment of dues, or that it will pay it to its creditors. The Supreme Court of the United States has, in many of the ablest decisions of many of the ablest lawyers of the country, declared that the power to coin money, and to regulate the value of foreign coin, is one of the most important powers granted to the government of the United States. The reasons assigned for these decisions have been eminently favorable to the commercial prosperity of the people by which they have been pronounced, and the principles announced for the government of the nation have been sustained by the highest tribunal known to the Constitution. Under the authority of this government, and of the almost unanimous decisions of the country, the people have been induced to receive the legal tender notes issued during the late war for the suppression of the rebellion, and to use them in the payment of debts. This has been sustained by the highest tribunal known to the Constitution. It must not be forgotten that these notes were issued in time of war, and were declared to be lawful money and a legal tender for the payment of debts, only because the power to borrow money and to issue bills of credit, implies the power to issue such notes when the money cannot be borrowed, and the bills of credit cannot be negotiated at par. The power to issue bills of credit, and to borrow money

REPORT

OF THE

SECRETARY OF WAR.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 5, 1868.

MR. PRESIDENT:—I have the honor to submit herewith my report of the operations of this department since the last annual report of the Secretary of War, with the reports of the Chiefs of Bureaus and Military Commanders for the same period.

ARMY ORGANIZATION AND STRENGTH.

The strength of the Army on the 30th of September last was fifty-eight thousand and eighty-one, which, by the law of January next, will be reduced, by expiration of term of service, to about forty-three thousand men.

Orders were issued in November last to recruit the companies of infantry and cavalry to the maximum and minimum strength authorized by law, except for light batteries of the regular company. No recruiting rendezvous are established in the States where the militia are organized and the regulations of the recruiting service is reduced to the minimum.

Recruiting for the Army except for light batteries of cavalry, will cease after the 1st of January next.

No officer of the Lieutenant General's staff, or of the staff of any of the military divisions or departments, will be continued during the year, these staff organizations having been abolished.

The appropriations for public works in the Engineer Department have been well applied and with satisfactory results.

Geographical and geological explorations and surveys have been prosecuted and will be continued during the year, these explorations having been found of great value.

No officer of the Engineer corps of the Army, during the year, has been detailed on civil duty, except on the Light-House Board, and on the Mississippi River Commission, in which, from the character of the duties, it was deemed proper that officers of the Engineer corps should be detailed.

Under the act of July 28, 1866, the sum of $1,000,000 was appropriated for the construction of certain military roads in the Territories and on the Pacific coast mentioned in said act, and the Secretary of War was authorized to cause the same to be expended under the direction of the President, by officers of the Army detailed for the purpose. Of this amount $500,000 was appropriated for the construction of a military road from Fort Ellis, in Gallatin Valley, Montana Territory, to the Yellowstone River, at or near the mouth of Shield's River, and $500,000 for the construction of a military road from Fort Wallula, on the Columbia River, to Fort Boise, in Idaho Territory. Of the first appropriation $200,000 has been expended, and $300,000 are awaiting decision, and the balance have been suspended for various causes.

The officers of the Subsistence Department number twenty-nine, but vacancies have been created from time to time during the year from over eight hundred different officers. The appointment of Assistant Commissaries of Subsistence from Lieutenants of the line, with a trifling increase of pay while so employed, is recommended, as is also the appointment of Post Commissary Sergeants.

It is recommended that the number and grade of officers of the Pay Department be fixed by law, so that vacancies may be filled.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Previous to the 1st of July last, the medical supplies for the Army were purchased in the large markets of the country, though the policy has been generally adhered to of purchasing in the localities of consumption whenever and wherever the public interest would be subserved thereby. Both here and abroad the system has continued to be regulated by contracts, which, in the general management of a military establishment, and the connection of their usefulness in every case with the public interest, are objectionable.

The average cost of the ration during the past year has been slightly above twenty-three cents.

Reference to the monthly value of $20,000 has been furnished the troops of coal prices.

Subsistence to the value of over $20,000 has been issued for the purpose of the Freedman's Bureau, and to the value of $1,000,000 for the purpose of feeding Indians in both instances.

In settlement of accounts for commutation of rations, the sum of $1,000,000 has been allowed, of which $500,000 has been issued, of which $50